

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 13482 221111Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00  
INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 ACDA-12 L-03 /077 W  
-----073067 221113Z/11

R 211649Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9354  
SECDEF WASHDC  
INFO USMISSION USNATO  
USNMR SHAPE  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE  
CINCUSAFE  
CINCUSNAVEUR  
HQ 3AF RAF MILDENHALL

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E. O. 11652:XGDS-1  
TAGS: UK MPOL MILI NATO  
SUBJECT: RAF FAIRFORD

REQ: HQ SAC OFFUTT AFB DTG 100100Z AUG AND 092230Z AUG

1. PERRY, HEAD OF DS-8, MOD, HAS CONFIRMED MOD'S  
DESIRE THAT THE PROPOSED KC-135 FLYING EXERCISE AT  
FAIRFORD TAKE PLACE BETWEEN 12-28 SEPTEMBER. HE  
STRESSED THE SUITABILITY OF THE TIME-FRAME FOR THE  
EXERCISE NOTING THAT SENIOR OFFICIALS BELIEVE THE  
GOVERNMENT'S CASE TO JUSTIFY THE FAIRFORD DECISION  
WILL BE HELPED BY THE PLANNED EXERCISE OF RAF FAIRFORD.

2. PERRY SAID THE 21 SEPTEMBER PUBLIC MEETING HAS NO  
STATUTORY OR FORMAL STATUS; IT BEING HELD TO ALLOW  
OPPONENTS TO "LET OFF STEAM," AND TO PROVIDE THE  
AUTHORITIES WITH A PLATFORM FOR INFORMING THE LOCAL  
COMMUNITY ABOUT THE DETAILS OF THE DEPLOYMENT. BRITISH  
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PAGE 02 LONDON 13482 221111Z

ARE CONVINCED THAT THE EXERCISE OF FAIRFORD WILL DO  
MORE TO HELP THE CASE FOR TANKER DEPLOYMENT THAN TO ARM  
THE OPPONENTS. THE COUNCILL WILL MEET "FORMALLY" ABOUT  
28 SEPTEMBER TO PREPARE ITS SUBMISSION--WHICH WILL  
HAVE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT THE VIEWS EXPRESSED DURING THE  
PUBLIC MEETING.

3. MOD EXPECTS THE COUNCIL'S ENDORSEMENT OF THE FAIRFORD DECISION DURING THE FIRST FEW DAYS OF OCTOBER. UNLESS A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF TROUBLE EMERGES FROM THE 21 SEPTEMBER PUBLIC HEARING--WHICH OFFICIALS DO NOT NOW ANTICIPATE--MOD EXPECTS TO BE ABLE TO NOTIFY USAF WITHIN A MATTER OF DAYS AFTER RECEIVING THE COUNCIL'S SUBMISSION THAT WE MAY PROCEED WITH WORK TO READY FAIRFORD FOR THE TANKERS. HOWEVER, IF THERE IS TROUBLE AT THE PUBLIC HEARING, THEN MOD BELIEVES THE GOVERNMENT WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY WAIT AWHILE BEFORE GIVING A GO-AHEAD. SUCH A DELAY COULD LAST FOR TWO OR THREE WEEKS.

4. PERRY SAID HIS OFFICE WILL WANT TO MEET WITH SAC AND 3 AF OFFICIALS BEFORE THE START OF THE EXERCISE TO DISCUSS LIKELY PROBLEMS. HE UNDERLINED ALSO THE IMPORTANCE HMG ATTACHES TO GETTING A GOOD PUBLIC AFFAIRS PRESENTATION ON THE EXERCISE. HE SAID MOD WANTS TO WORK CLOSELY WITH SAC/3AF PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF AND MOD STANDS READY TO ADVISE AND ASSIST.

STREATOR

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REGIONAL DEFENSE ORGANIZATIONS  
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**Decapton Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**TAGS:** MPOL, MILI, UK, NATO  
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**Review Markings:**  
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